

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING MEGAN TRISCARI  
FOR RECEIVING THE CHILD  
CARE WORKER OF THE YEAR  
AWARD

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 22, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Megan Triscari, a resident of the Chautauqua County town of Jamestown, upon the occasion of her receiving the Child Care Worker of the Year award.

Megan was honored at the YMCA Camp Onyhasa's annual meeting for her exemplary service and dedication to children. This honor was given based on her never ending commitment to her job.

Ms. Triscari has been known to report to work on snow days and even request to work extra shifts. This type of dedication is very rare in this day and age.

Megan has displayed extreme compassion, love and dedication to her work and the children she is entrusted with and I am proud, Mr. Speaker, to have an opportunity to honor her today.

THE AMERICAN LEGION SUPPORTS  
AUTHORIZATION OF PARKIN-  
SON'S DISEASE RESEARCH EDU-  
CATION AND CLINICAL CENTERS

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 22, 2005*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, the American Legion, which has 2.8 million members fully supports H.R. 2959, which will permanently authorize the Department of Veterans' Affairs Parkinson Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers. The VA treats some 40,000 veterans who have this neuro-degenerative disease.

The letter from the American Legion follows:  
THE AMERICAN LEGION,  
Washington, DC, June 21, 2005.

Hon. LANE EVANS,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE EVANS: On behalf of the 2.8 million members of The American Legion, I would like to offer full support of H.R. 2959—"Authorization of Parkinson's Disease Research Education and Clinical Centers", permanently authorizing the six existing VA Parkinson's Disease Research Education and Clinical Centers (PADRECCs).

Parkinson's Disease is a debilitating neuro-degenerative disease that affects approximately 1.5 million Americans each year. The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) currently treats more than 40,000 veterans with Parkinson's disease. As the veteran population ages, the PADRECCs will become even more essential, not only for treatment, but for training health care professionals, conducting progressive research, and

finding a cure. This bill will help to ensure that these veterans receive the best quality care.

Again, The American Legion fully supports H.R. 2959, "Authorization of Parkinson's Disease Research Education and Clinical Centers" and we appreciate your dedication to this serious health issue.

Sincerely,

STEVE ROBERTSON,  
Director,  
National Legislative Commission.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 20, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I strongly disagree with the defense policy of the Bush Administration. While I disagree with the policy, I do not believe we should deprive our troops in the field and our military of the funds they need to protect our country.

Since 2003, Congress has appropriated almost \$250 billion for the war efforts by passing supplemental appropriations bills in 2003, 2004 and 2005. U.S. spending in Iraq will be at least \$75 billion to \$80 billion this year and could approach \$400 billion by 2006, according to Congressional Quarterly. This approaches the \$406 billion cost of the Korean War. Last month we passed a fiscal year 2005 supplemental appropriation that totaled \$82 billion, the second largest supplemental in history. Only one month has passed, and we find ourselves voting for another \$45 billion for war funding for the first 6 months of the 2006 fiscal year.

Assuming the size of the U.S. military presence in Iraq and Afghanistan will remain at approximately the same level through 2006, the war costs will require another \$40 to \$45 billion. No money will be spent that is not directly related to the war. No money under the \$45 billion supplemental portion of the bill will be spent on the Army's modularity initiative or to increase the permanent end strength of active duty forces.

I am a strong advocate for developing a plan for withdrawing U.S. forces from Iraq. We should keep in mind that the FY05 supplemental contained language that requires the Defense Department to provide Congress with a set of performance indicators and measures of stability and security in Iraq and a timetable for achieving these goals. The first report is due in July. We look forward to how DoD will define its strategies for success.

This bill is framed principally by our missions in Afghanistan and Iraq. In my judgment

the forces we have on the ground in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom are doing a fabulous job, but the size of our Army and Marine Corps is just too small to do the job we are asking them to do. I hope the funds in the bill will provide for that shortfall.

I support this bill in order to properly equip our troops with body armor, vehicle armor and other equipment to protect them from insurgent attacks. As much as I regret the War in Iraq, I cannot ignore the fact that we are a Nation at war. This bill recognizes and provides our troops with the tools they need to do their job.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 22, 2005*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was detained late yesterday afternoon. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall 289 (Motion to Recommit with Instructions—H.R. 2475)—nay; Rollcall 290 (On Passage—H.R. 2475)—yea.

RECOGNIZING CROATIA'S  
NATIONAL DAY

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 22, 2005*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY and myself, in our capacity as Co-chairs of the Congressional Croatian Caucus, on the occasion of National Day of the Republic of Croatia, June 25, I rise to recognize the significant progress the country of Croatia has made in gaining recognition and responsibility within the international community since its independence.

Croatia has come a long way in the last 14 years and has experienced a number of important developments in the process. Overcoming the legacies of communism and armed aggression, Croatia is now well on the path towards full membership in the Euro-Atlantic community. All these achievements mark Croatia's successful transition in political and economic reforms to a thriving democracy and market economy, as well as depicting the Croatian Government's commitment to the rule of law and human rights.

Croatia's strategic objectives to enter NATO and the European Union, as well as strengthen and deepen its ties with the United States, are the driving forces behind its foreign and security policy, and defense reforms. Integration into the Euro-Atlantic Community will enable Croatia to assume a more active role within the community of democracies that share the same values, principles and interests. Active participation by Croatian military

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.